

Message Text

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SUBJECT: GOC MEMORANDUM ON ILO INVESTIGATION OF CHILE

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF MEMORANDUM DISTRIBUTED BY GOC FONOFF AT MEETING WITH AMBASSADORS MAY 20 RE CONSIDERATION OF ILO INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE REPORT.

2. "1. THE GOVERNING BODY OF ILO, WHICH WILL MEET IN GENEVA FROM MAY 26 TO 31, WILL CONSIDER THE FINAL REPORT PREPARED BY ITS FACTFINDING AND CONCILIATION COMMISSION ON FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION, DEALING WITH THE INQUIRIES UNDERTAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH CHARGES AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE FOR ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION.

3. "2. WITHOUT PREJUDICE AS TO THE ACTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY, THE SAME REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE 60TH ILO GENERAL CONFERENCE, WHICH WILL MEET IN GENEVA NEXT JUNE.

4. "3. DURING THE 59TH ILO GENERAL CONFERENCE (GENEVA, JUNE 1974), A RESOLUTION WAS APPROVED CENSURING CHILE, BEFORE THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION BEGAN, AND PREJUDGING THE MATTERS THAT COMMISSION WAS REQUESTED TO INVESTIGATE.

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5. "4. THE ANTI-CHILEAN RESOLUTION WAS SPONSORED BY SOME COUNTRIES IT IS UNNECESSARY TO NAME, WHICH ARE STRIVING TO MAINTAIN A CAMPAIGN OF A HIGHLY POLITICAL CHARACTER AGAINST OUR COUNTRY; THEY HAVE EVEN ATTACKED MEMBERS OF THE ILO COMMISSION--PERSONS OF HIGH JURIDICAL COMPETENCE AND SUITABILITY--BECAUSE THEY CONSIDERED THAT ITS PRELIMINARY REPORT FAVORS THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE, WHICH OF COURSE DOES NOT MEET THEIR OBJECTIVES.

6. "5. THE GOC IS GREATLY CONCERNED THAT GOVERNMENTS OF COUNTRIES TRADITIONALLY FRIENDLY TO CHILE SHOULD NOT BE INFLUENCED BY SUCH ACTIONS, CONSCIOUSLY ORCHESTRATED TO DAMAGE OUR IMAGE ABROAD AND TO PROVOKE OUR ISOLATION. DURING 1974, THE EXTENSIVE MISINFORMATION RECEIVED BY VARIOUS GOVERNMENTS REGARDING EVENT IN CHILE MAY HAVE INDUCED THEM TO TOLERATE, AND AT TIMES TO SUPPORT, SUCH CONDEMNATIONS. ON THE CONTRARY, TODAY IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR SUCH GOVERNMENTS TO ALLOW THEMSELVES TO BE DRAWN INTO CAMPAIGNS OF THIS CHARACTER, WHICH GO SO FAR AS TO DISREGARD THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OR TO USE IT IN A MISLEADING WAY, SINCE THAT WOULD BE OF POLITICAL BENEFIT ONLY TO A SMALL GROUP OF COUNTRIES AND WOULD IRRETRIEVABLY PREJUDICE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THE ILO, BY ESTABLISHING A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT. FOR THESE REASONS, THE GOC WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATIVE IF FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS ABSTAINED FROM VOTING IN FAVOR OF ANY PROVISIONS CENSURING CHILE.

7. "6. LIKEWISE, DURING THE THIRD MEETING OF LABOR MINISTERS OF THE ANDEAN PACT, WHICH TOOK PLACE RECENTLY IN LIMA, PERU, IT WAS AGREED THAT THESE COUNTRIES WOULD ACT JOINTLY, AND WOULD SEEK THE COLLABORATION OF ALL OTHER GOVERNMENTS IN GENERAL, TO BRING ABOUT THE DEPOLITICIZATION OF DISCUSSIONS IN THE ILO, SO THAT THE ORGANIZATION MIGHT FOCUS ON THE STUDY OF THOSE SUBJECTS WITHIN ITS COMPETENCE; AND TO BRING ABOUT THE DECENTRALIZATION OF THE ILO IN ADMINISTRATIVE, FINANCIAL, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MATTERS. THIS INITIATIVE SHOULD BE OF BENEFIT EQUALLY TO THE LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND TO ALL OTHER GOVERNMENTS."

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